

_____ BILL NO. _____

INTRODUCED BY _____
(Primary Sponsor)

BY REQUEST OF THE FIRE SUPPRESSION COMMITTEE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING, SUBJECT TO AN APPROPRIATION, A WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE GRANT PROGRAM FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION; PROVIDING ALLOWABLE USES FOR THE GRANT FUNDS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Wildland-urban interface grant program -- appropriation. (1) Subject to an appropriation, there is a program in the department of natural resources and conservation to provide grants to local governments for the following activities:

(a) assisting local governments, local government planning entities, and local governmental fire agencies in analyzing wildfire risk in their jurisdictional areas, in designating the wildland-urban interface parcels within the local governments' jurisdictional areas, and in developing community wildfire protection plans under 16 U.S.C. 6501, et seq.;

(b) promoting and conducting wildfire hazard mitigation projects on public and private land around communities located in wildfire-prone areas;

(c) assisting communities with establishing and maintaining locally driven wildfire prevention and awareness programs; and

(d) other activities as determined by the department to assist local governments in mitigating wildfire hazards in and near communities.

(2) The department shall:

(a) determine application requirements and the criteria for awarding grants to local governments, including the amount of matching funds the department intends to require; and

(b) coordinate administration of the grant program provided for in this section with the federally funded western wildland urban interface grant program and the community protection fuels mitigation grant program also

1 administered by the department.

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3 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
4 integral part of Title 76, chapter 13, part 1, and the provisions of Title 76, chapter 13, part 1, apply to [section 1].

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6 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2009.

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